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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/036,409	01/07/2002	Lars Persson	003300-887	3589

7590 05/20/2003

BENTON S. DUFFETT, JR.
BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404

EXAMINER

KENNY, STEPHEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3726

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2003

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/036,409

Applicant(s)

PERSSON, LARS

Examiner

Stephen J Kenny

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspond nc address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 May 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 8-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-7 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 8-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1- 4, & 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Foltuz et al. (US Patent No 5595771).

Regarding claim 1, Foltuz discloses a method for making injection molds comprising: defining function holes & recesses (14) while simultaneously defining a product cavity and parting plane of the mold (12) (column 5, lines 3-7). Note it is inherent that a product pattern be received in order for the location and sizes of the holes, recesses, and cavities to be defined.

Regarding claim 2, Foltuz discloses that the function holes & recesses are carried out in a first mold pattern (12 see Figure 2 & column 5, lines 9-19) and the definition of the product cavity and parting plane of the mold is carried out in a second mold pattern (14 see Figure 3 & column 5, lines 20-34).

Regarding claims 3, & 12, Foltuz discloses defining a coordinate system of the product pattern prior to the step of defining said holes, recesses, cavity, and parting plane (this is an inherent feature of Foltuz since the coordinate system needs to be defined prior to defining said holes & recesses otherwise the layered plates (16, 18, 19, 20, 34, 36, 38, 40, 39B) would not be able to communicate); wherein said coordinate system is defined such that the origin is available within a two-dimensional projection of the product pattern (any of the projections 26, 24, 30,

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which have two-dimensions, and are dictated by the product pattern could be considered the origin).

Regarding claims 4, 13, 14, & 15, Foltuz discloses generating data (or locating) function holes & recesses from the first mold pattern (12), as well as generating data regarding product cavity and parting plane from the second mold pattern (14); and machining a blank for the injection mold by each set of data independently from one another (column 5, lines 59-67 & column 6, lines 54-59 & column 7, lines 13-39). Mold insert 55e, which is mold shaping (or “machining”) insert, is fitted to the second mold pattern 14 irrespective of the first mold pattern 12. That is to say, that the mold insert 55e is held in place on the ejector side and does not communicate or engage with to the first mold pattern 12 (column 6, lines 4-7). Conversely item 55f is fixed to the first mold pattern 12 irrespective of the second mold pattern 14.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8-11, 16, & 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Foltuz.

Regarding claims 8-10, 16, Foltuz discloses a method for making injection molds comprising a plurality of modules, having a first module (12), a drive module (14), a second module (34), an ejector module (36), and an engaging module (39). Although Foltuz does not

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explicitly state that the modules are formed simultaneously, it is widely understood that the advantage of modular manufacturing is the reduction in set up or lead time – however in order to realize a reduction in set up time, each module must be available for use, meaning that each module be machined simultaneously (column 7, lines 36-39). Furthermore, the examiner takes official notice that it would require minimal, if any, inventive foresight to machine the modules of Foltuz simultaneously.

Regarding claims 11 & 17, Foltuz discloses the instant invention except for explicitly stating that the modular injection mold method is used to mold mobile phone compartments. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to form cell phone components by Foltuz's method, since it is widely known that cell phone components are routinely formed by injection molding. Furthermore, it is readily apparent that the method disclosed by Foltuz could be employed to mold cell phone components. Employing Foltuz's method would afford the time and cost savings disclosed by Foltuz to the manufacturing of cell phone components.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record on the attached PTO-892, and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen J Kenny whose telephone number is 703-306-0359. The examiner can normally be reached on mon - fri 9am - 5pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Vidovich can be reached on 703-308-1513. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9302 for regular communications and 703-872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1148.

sk SK
May 13, 2003


GREGORY VIDOVIK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700